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Roberts
PATENT Ele.

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket Number: 4788.0247-00



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yasuhiro OMURA

Application No.: 09/865,734

Filed: May 29, 2001

For: PROJECTION OPTICAL SYSTEM,
EXPOSURE APPARATUS
INCORPORATING THIS
PROJECTION OPTICAL SYSTEM,
AND MANUFACTURING METHOD
FOR MICRO DEVICES USING
THE EXPOSURE APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: Hung Nguyen

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In an Office Action dated August 29, 2002, the Examiner required a restriction of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Examiner alleges that claims 1-28 are directed to the following distinct subcombinations, characterized by the Examiner as follows:

Group I, corresponding to claims 1-4, 7-14, and 8-23; and

Group II, corresponding to claims 4-6, 15-16, and 22-28.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, including claims 1-4, 7-14, and 8-23.

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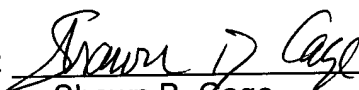
Applicant waives no rights to request examination with respect to any present, or later introduced, generic claim(s) in this response

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 26, 2002

By: 
Shawn B. Cage
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